

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 L-03 NSF-04

NSC-10 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SCI-06 SS-20 SPC-03

ACDA-19 INT-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /172 W

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R 261243Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5939

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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SCI/ENV FOR HERTER

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV EEC

SUBJ: US-EC ENVIRONMENT COOPERATION

REF: EC BRUSSELS 4167

1. SUMMARY. AT HERTER/SCARASCIA-MUGNOZZA LUNCHEON
ON OCT 24 AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON A PROGRAM OF
INFORMAL US-EC COMMISSION CONSULTATIONS ON ENVIRONMENT
MATTERS. NEXT STEP WILL BE DISCUSSIONS LATER THIS
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YEAR AT OFFICIAL/EXPERT LEVEL TO DETERMINE SPECIFIC

AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST. SCARASCIA THINKING OF VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN SPRING '74 DURING WHICH FURTHER POLICY LEVEL TALKS COULD TAKE PLACE. COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES WERE MOST FORTHCOMING AND SEEM TO HAVE NO INHIBITIONS ABOUT CONTACTS WITH US IN ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD. END SUMMARY.

2. CHRISTIAN HERTER, JR., SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, RICHARD FAIRBANKS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF THE DOMESTIC COUNCIL IN THE WHITE HOUSE, AMBASSADOR GREENWALD AND A MISSION OFFICER MET ON OCTOBER 24 WITH EC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT SCARASCIA-MUGNOZZA, MICHEL CARPENTIER, DIRECTOR, COMMISSION DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND MEMBERS OF SCARASCIA'S STAFF TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US AND THE EC ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS. THE MAJOR POINTS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING FOLLOW.

3. COMPETENCE OF THE COMMISSION TO ENGAGE IN BILATERAL COOPERATION OUTSIDE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: HERTER RAISED THIS PROBLEM WITH SCARASCIA AS THERE WAS SOME QUESTION, FOLLOWING THE JULY EC COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE COMMISSION'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM, AS TO THE SCOPE OF THE COMMISSION'S ACOMPETENCE (SEE REFTEL). SCARASCIA SAID THAT THE COMMISSION HAS AUTHORITY TO ENGAGE IN INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS AND WHEN COOPERATION IS SUFFICIENTLY RIPE (WHICH WAS NOT DEFINED), HE WOULD GET APPROVAL FROM HIS COMMISSION COLLEAGUES FOR A MORE FORMAL SET OF ARRANGEMENTS, IF THAT APPEARS DESIRABLE.

4. MODALITIES FOR COOPERATION: HERTER PROPOSED THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THREE OR FOUR HIGH-LEVEL EXPERTS FROM EACH SIDE GET TOGETHER IN BRUSSELS LATER THIS YEAR TO DETERMINE AREAS IN THE EC AND US ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS WHERE EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION WOULD BE FRUITFUL. THIS COULD BE FOLLOWED UP BY MEETINGS OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS IN THE PARTICULAR SECTORS CHOSEN. HERTER ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THERE BE POLICY LEVEL MEETINGS (E.G., HERTER AND SCARASCIA) ONCE OR TWICE A YEAR TO SEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOW THE TOTAL EFFORT WAS PROGRESSING, AND TO SUGGEST APPROPRIATE CHANGES WHERE REQUIRED. SUCH SEMI-ANNUAL MEETINGS, IN ADDITION TO REVIEWING AFFIRMATIVE PROGRESS, COULD ALSO BE USED FOR EARLY WARNING ON POTENTIALLY HARMFUL LEGISLATIVE OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON EITHER SIDE. ONE MEETING COULD TAKE PLACE IN BRUSSELS IN THE FALL DURING THE CCMS MEETING, THE OTHER COULD BE IN WASHINGTON IN THE SPRING. SCARASCIA AGREED WITH THE PROGRAM HERTER

OUTLINED. HE ADDED THAT THE US AND EC SHOULD LOOK TOGETHER AT WORK BEING DONE IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO AVOID DUPLICATION, ETC.

5. AT THE BRUSSELS MEETING (IN LATE NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER) THE AREAS TO BE COVERED WOULD BE RESEARCH, CRITERIA AND STANDARDS, WATER POLLUTION (INCLUDING, E.G., THE GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY AGREEMENT), AIR POLLUTION, AND CHEMICALS. ON THE COMMISSION SIDE THE DELEGATION WOULD BE LED BY CARPENTIER. THE MEETING WOULD LAST TWO DAYS. CARPENTIER WILL PROPOSE THE EXACT DATES.

6. THIS MEETING COULD BE FOLLOWED UP BY MEETINGS BETWEEN TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS IN AREAS OF PRIORITY CONCERN. THE COMMISSION IS REQUIRED TO PRESENT THE COUNCIL WITH A SPECIFIC PROGRAM OF IMPLEMENTATION ON A GREAT MANY AREAS BY DECEMBER 31, 1974. THUS, WORK HAS ALREADY BEGUN IN THE COMMISSION AND TECHNICAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE US SHOULD TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE NEXT YEAR TO BE MOST USEFUL.

7. SCARASCIA VISIT: SCARASCIA SAID HE WAS PLANNING A TRIP TO WASHINGTON IN THE SP
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